

Message Text

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SUBJ: 30TH UNGA: GENERAL DEBATE SPEECH BY PHILIPPINE FIRST LADY

MRS. IMELDA MARCOS, SEPTEMBER 24, 1975

1. SUMMARY: SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT MARCOS, MRS. MARCOS DECLARED THAT THE GOP IDENTIFIES ITSELF WITH OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR CONFRONTATION WITH DEVELOPED NATIONS. SHE URGED THAT DETENTE BE MADE MEANINGFUL TO LDCS BY ITS APPLICATION TO THE CREATION OF A NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. SHE ALSO PROPOSED THAT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BE BASED ON FIXED ASSESSMENTS LEVIED ON BOTH POOR AND RICH COUNTRIES "OF WHATEVER ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL SYSTEM." SHE SAID THAT UN MEMBER STATES SHOULD MOBILIZE PUBLIC OPINION IN SUPPORT OF SUCH PROPOSALS, AND SUGGESTED THAT APPEALS FOR THE CREATION OF THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER BE BASED ON A NEW INTERNATIONAL CODE OF ETHICS. END SUMMARY.

2. MRS. MARCOS SAID THAT THE CONSENSUS REACHED AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY CONCERN OF TH REGULAR SESSION. WHILE WELCOMING THE RECENT SINAI AGREEMENT, SHE POINTED OUT THAT PEACE CANNOT BE MEASURED ONLY IN POLITICAL TERMS, BUT
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MUST INCLUDE PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE

IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONNECTION, SHE EMPHASIZED THAT THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AND THE PROMOTION OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE CONCURRENT, NOT CONSECUTIVE UNDERTAKINGS. SHE ADDED THAT THE PROPER FIELD FOR THE APPLICATION OF DETENTE AMONG THE GREAT POWERS IS THE CREATION OF A NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER, AND UNTIL THIS OCCURS DETENTE CANNOT BE "TRULY MEANINGFUL" FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

3. MRS. MARCOS NOTED THAT "MUCH HARD BARGAINING" REMAINS ON THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER, AND THAT WE ARE STILL FAR FROM AN EQUITABLE WORLD SOCIETY. SHE PARTICULARLY DEPLORED THE FAILURE OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO MEET THE 0.7 PERCENT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TARGET, AND PROPOSED THAT ALL MEMBER NATIONS CONSIDER PROVIDING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ON THE BASIS OF FIXED ASSESSMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OBJECTIVE CRITERIA. SHE INDICATED THAT SUCH A SYSTEM WOULD INCLUDE BOTH RICH AND POOR NATIONS "OF WHATEVER ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL SYSTEM," AND WOULD CONSTITUTE AN EARNEST OF THEIR SINCERITY ABOUT PURSUING THE GOALS EXPRESSED IN THE GENERAL CONSENSUS REACHED AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION.

4. MRS. MARCOS ALSO STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF WIDENING THE DIALOGUE ON THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER BY MOBILIZING WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. SHE SAID THAT THE CREATION OF THIS ORDER IS TOO BIG A TASK FOR GOVERNMENTS ALONE TO ACHIEVE, AND WILL REQUIRE THE UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT OF THEIR PEOPLES. SHE POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS A DANGER THAT THE PROFESSIONS OF GOODWILL AND COOPERATION VOICED AT THE SPECIAL SESSION WILL REMAIN "WELL-INTENTIONED LIP SERVICE" UNLESS GOVERNMENTS CAN CONVINCE THEIR NATIONAL CONSTITUENCIES OF THE JUSTICE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL STRUCTURAL REFORMS IMPLICIT IN THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER.

5. SUGGESTING THAT CURRENT WORLD PROBLEMS STEM FROM THE MORAL FAILURES OF THE STRONG, MRS. MARCOS PROPOSED THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE FORMULATION OF COMPREHENSIVE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF ETHICS. SHE INDICATED THAT SUCH A CODE SHOULD INCORPORATE THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY, SELF-DETERMINATION, SELF-RELIANCE AND THE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF "THE GOODS OF LIFE" AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD. MRS. MARCOS SAID THAT SINCERE COMMITMENT TO THIS CODE WOULD FREE MANKIND FROM THE TRIPLE TYRANNIES OF

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CIRCUMSTANCES, POWER BLOCK AND IDEOLOGICAL DOGMAS. SHE ADDED THAT THIS CODE IS INSPIRED BY THE "MORALITY OF THE OPPRESSED" WHICH SEEKS JUSTICE NOT DOMINANCE.

6. IN CONCLUDING, MRS. MARCOS SAID THAT THE 30TH UNGA OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO GO BEYOND THE AIM OF PROMOTING PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE TO "CREATE A NEW MORAL IMAGE OF MAN."
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